

Imm
PRECEDENCE

Unclass
CLASSIFICATION

FOR COMMCENTER USE ONLY

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM/HAK 122

TO: BREMER/COVEY/RODMAN
FOR THE SECRETARY

DEX _____

DAC 012

LDX _____

TTY _____

GPS _____

PAGES 4

CITE _____

INFO:

DTG: ..

RELEASED BY:

DN

TOR: 041532Z

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

TO HAK 122

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

175 AUG 4 AM 11:48

1975 JUL 4 15 10

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: The Situation Room
SUBJECT: Morning News Summary

The Washington Post

Carroll Kilpatrick writes that Yugoslav President Tito, rejecting Western requests that he use his influence to calm Third World criticism of Israel, told President Ford last night that Israel should withdraw from Arab territories and recognize the rights of Palestinians. (A-1)

The Yemen Arab Republic will end the Soviet Union's 20-year-old role as the country's key arms supplier and allow the stationing of American military advisers if a proposed American arms sale to North Yemen is approved, President Ibrahim el Hamdi said yesterday. (A-1)

The Indian government has drawn up legislation, expected to be routinely passed by parliament today, that would free Prime Minister Gandhi from conviction for illegal campaign practices. The draft legislation, which would have retroactive effect, would amend all sections of the electoral law covering Mrs. Gandhi's case. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear an appeal on the case August 11. (A-1)

One or more persons identified as members of the Japanese Red Army terrorist group forced their way into the U.S. consulate in Malaysia this morning and took the consul and three Malaysian employees hostage, U.S. officials in Malaysia and Washington announced. (A-1)

An underground resistance organization dedicated to toppling President Idi Amin has started operating in Uganda. The guerrillas -- calling themselves the Uganda Liberation Movement -- surfaced in the last two weeks with bombing incidents to embarrass Amin during the summit meeting of the OAU. (A-12)

David Van Praagh discusses the Pathet Lao takeover in Laos. The questions are not whether Laos will go communist or whether the U.S. embassy will stay now that USAID is gone.

-2-

The questions are whether the Lao version of communism will develop a special national identity as Laos did during the war and whether the big powers will aid and protect Laos under international agreements. In short, will China block North Vietnamese domination of Laos? The future direction of Laos will be determined partly by the largely unknown top leadership of the Pathet Lao, notably Kaysone Phomvihan, who is half-Vietnamese and believed close to Hanoi. But the people of Laos are nervously waiting to see whether their communist, buddhist kingdom will continue to be different. (A-16)

The Evans and Novak article is being sent full text. (A-17)

The New York Times

According to Bernard Gwertzman, newly declassified documents show that the U.S. gave high-level consideration during the Korean war to staging a coup against President Rhee of South Korea. The plan was known as Operation Everready and was never put into effect on the two occasions it was under active study. (1)

John Crewdson reports that Justice Department lawyers looking into possible wrongdoing by the CIA have concluded that agency employees acted illegally in opening and photographing mail in transit between the U.S. and communist countries. (1)

David Andelman reports that for the first time since the end of the warfare in Indochina, earlier this year top-level discussions took place between officials of North Vietnam and the new communist regime in Cambodia. There was also no mention whether any agreements emerged from the session, but government communiques stated that the two delegations had "unanimity of views on all questions which were raised." The Hanoi version added the word "complete" before unanimity." (3)

Thomas Johnson notes that the reality of Nigeria's change of government is beginning to be felt in Lagos but its poorer citizens appear hardly affected by the changes in the nation's leadership. (3)

Henry Kamm writes that Burma has quietly begun cooperating with the U.S. in fighting the opium flow. In June, the first four American helicopters of a projected total of 18 over the next two years arrived in Burma to be used against smugglers. The chiefs of Burma's military and civilian intelligence agencies have been in the U.S. for

a month on an unpublicized study mission. (3)

Henry Giniger details the unrest in Portugal as anticommunist demonstrators again went into the streets of various towns yesterday. (5)

In an interview published yesterday, President Ford accused the Soviet Union of quietly helping the communists in Portugal and called it tragic that the U.S. was unable to help the situation there. Western European countries are helping "democratic friends" in Portugal, he said in the interview with the magazine U.S. News and World Report, but because of congressional investigations of the CIA, the U.S. is unable to participate. (The interview was conducted before he left last weekend on his current visit to Europe.) (6)

Drew Middleton writes that the Middle East is as close to peace as it ever comes, and all the surface signposts indicate that it will remain in that uneasy situation for at least six months. The military balance is in Israel's favor, so much so that a fifth Arab-Israeli war -- even a limited one begun by the Arabs for political objectives, like that of 1973 -- appears foolhardy. So, too, does a pre-emptive Israeli operation aimed at hitting the Arabs so hard that their military threat is eliminated for the rest of this decade. "Logically, there's no sense in a fifth war, but this is the Middle East." (8)

The Times notes that the Senate's surprise defeat of the \$25.7-billion military procurement bill last week was triggered by anger over the way the conference committee of the two houses resolved controversial issues almost invariably in favor of the military. Most outrageous of all was the inclusion of \$60-million for the nuclear power plant of a navy strike cruiser, a program which has not been debated in either house. Defeat of the military procurement bill represents a vote for more rational defense policy decisions -- with adequate opportunity for congressional debate -- as well as a directive to the Senate-House armed service conferees to revise their money authorizations downward. (18)

Anthony Lewis writes that President Ford's Helsinki speech calling for freer movement for people and ideas must have sounded embarrassingly hollow in light of Mr. Ford's refusal to even see Alexander Solzhenitsyn. We suffer these days from political leaders without ideals, without dreams. Their interest is limited to the immediate, their vision to power. You care much less about human rights and decency than about power and short-term political objectives and you do not want to let anything get in the way of your doing business with Leonid Brezhnev. (19)

The Baltimore Sun

Henry Trehwitt says that in a single day of Balkan diplomacy, President Ford yesterday signed a trade agreement with Romania and received veiled advice from President Tito of Yugoslavia to force massive territorial concessions from Israel. (A-1)

Prime Minister Gandhi has drawn up retroactive amendments to India's electoral law that would free her from conviction for illegal campaign practices. The amendments are assured quick passage by parliament. (A-1)

According to Muriel Dobbin, William Colby said in an interview he would flatly oppose even a broad disclosure of the intelligence budget on the grounds that it would yield information about sensitive operations. The CIA director is scheduled to testify today before the House intelligence committee as it continues its probe of the fiscal operations of espionage agencies. (A-1)

Portugal's leftist military junta, divided and floundering in a two-week-old government vacuum, met in urgent session yesterday while frustrated political parties called their supporters into the streets, leading to renewed anticommunist violence. (A-2)

Newspapers in Argentina yesterday received a communique signed by the outlawed Marxist People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) offering a truce in exchange for the release of all political prisoners and repeal of the state of siege. (A-2)

The Sun asserts that the U.S. is stalling on a Panama treaty and expresses the hope that the administration will find the political courage to move resolutely to a new treaty, one that would enable the canal to function safely and effectively through political arrangements that will satisfy the national aspirations of the Panamanian people. The alternative is more tension and, possibly, a return to the violence of the pre-Torrijos era. (A-8)

Garry Wills' column will be sent full text. (A-9)